

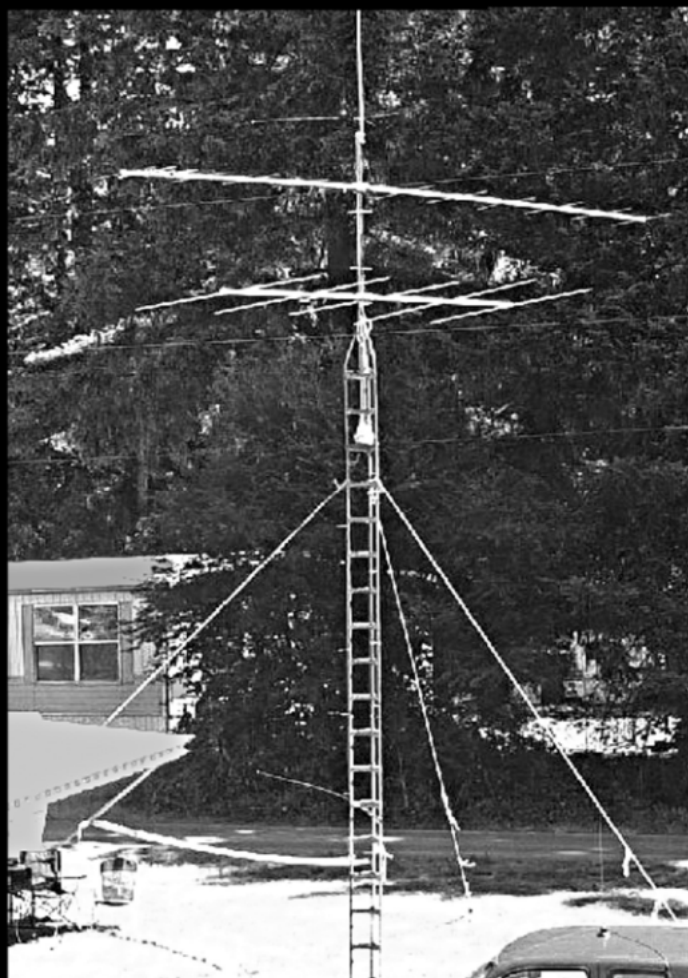
**ALL
NEW!**

PSYCHIC PREDICTIONS
GOSSIP COLUMN
PHOTOS and more!!

RCT WORLD NEWS

April 2009

HAM RADIO'S MOST READ NEWSLETTER



AMAZING NEW PRODUCT !! 'QI' Antenna Fertilizer

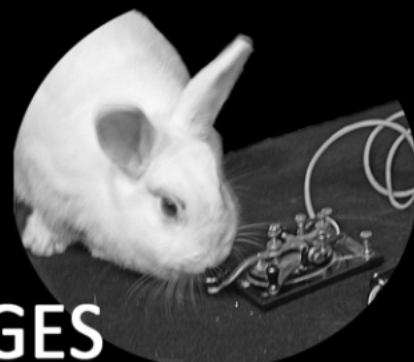
**HAM OP CLAIMS
3 FT TOWER GROWTH
AFTER ONE WEEKS
APPLICATION... "IT'S
DARN AMAZING !!"**



ALIEN APPEARS ON ARPS SCREEN

**"I DAMN NEAR DROVE INTO THE RIVER...
I WAS SO SCARED", SAYS KD7UBE...**

Bunny COPIES MORSE MESSAGES

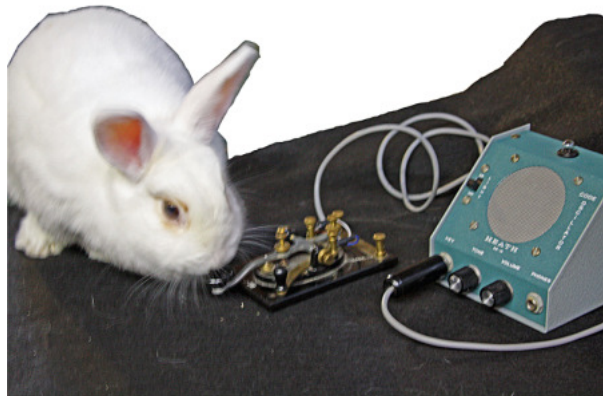


**20 WPM EXTRAS WATCH OUT. THIS WABBIT
WILL SHAME YOU TO FALL ON YOUR BUG**

AMAZING RABBIT SENDS AND RECEIVES MORSE CODE MESSAGES...

Editor's Note: Parts of this article were originally published in the North Slope Times...

Jessica Rabbit Wins North Slope Neighborhood Pet Talent Show... Jessica Rabbit owned by Pat W. of 1096 North 9th Street is the winner of this year's animal talent show held at the North Slope First Lutheran Church on Feb 6th of this year. Jessica's talent is that she can send and receive Morse code. When hungry... she simply sends di di dah dit - dah dah dah - dah dah dah - dah di dit which spells FOOD. When it is time for her to be fed... owner Pat W taps out the same Morse message and Jessica comes running. Jessica Rabbit didn't always know Morse code. Pat W. tells us at RCTWN that she learned it from her now deceased mate, Frank Rabbit.



Jessica Rabbit at the key calling for her food.



Frank Rabbit

Frank was taught the code by Rich KR7W over a period of two or three months. Frank was a fast learner who gained four pounds from eating the treats for performing well. After Frank died... Jessica apparently wanted some treats... so she went to Frank's old key and tapped out the same messages.

It is interesting to note... says Pat W... that rabbits communicate with other objects, other rabbits, and their humans by nudging or pushing with their head. That is the way she (Jessica) communicates with Frank's telegraph key.

Even though Jessica Rabbit knows all 41 required Morse characters you used to know to pass your General code test... she is going to need a lot more practice before she is going to be on the SKCC calling frequency.

Local Ham Invents Revolutionary New Product to Enhance Ham Radio...

Local RCT Club Member, Bill Wright, AC7QI, has invented and is producing 'Antenna Farm Fertilizer'. Bill reports to RCTWN that it was one of those times "where dumb luck triumphed over science". Pals close to Bill say that he was emptying the filing catch basin under his large metal lathe. He was taking the filings in his wheel borrow to a large bin at the rear of his property. Bill's dog, Critter, had spotted a rabbit and began to chase it. Critter ran under Bill's feet, knocked him down, and the load of metal filings spilled all over the area under his tower. Bill tried to clean the material up with a rake and shovel... but that just spread it around. Tired and dirty, Bill retreated to his ham shack and was tuning around the 20 Meter Band where he noticed a lack of noise and an increase of signals. This stroke of dumb luck got



Bill thinking, reports his ham buddy, Al. "Ya just can't dump iron filings anywhere you want cuz it is bad for the ground water and it is harmful to the critters," Al says Bill said. Off to the

shop/lab Bill went and after a few weeks he had formulated different blends of fertilizer for different purposes. "Want to work a contest on 20 SSB?", asks Bill... "You need the 'Special Contest Quality DX Blend' to spread under your antenna. It works every time, lasts two or three days, and won't harm the critters or the environment".

Bill's QI Antenna Farm Fertilizer is sold by various ham radio suppliers, such as:

Continued on Page 36...

A Paid Advertisement

Mr QI, Bill:
Cultivating his antenna
farm for an upcoming
contest

AD7QI presents... A Revolutionary Break Through in Amateur Radio...

It is what all Amateur Operators have
been waiting for...

Qi Antenna Farm Fertilizer

Select a blend for your Band
or Mode of Operation:


160 Meter Groundwave
80 Meter NVIS (WGers)
40 Meter Gray Line
30 Meter Digital/RTTY
20 Meter Special DX/Contest
15 Meter MUF Extender
10 Meter Instant Linear
6 Meter Sporadic E Blend

For more info... see:
www.QI-DX-fertilizer.net or
www.qrz.com AD7QI



The Logger's Bark

RADIO CLUB of TACOMA



April 2009
Volume 5, Issue 4
Copyright RCT

From The Editor...



We here at the Loggers Bark have been seeing a bit of problem with this month's publication. We beseech the readers to figure out the problems and help the "Barkie" staff, who are all over worked and under paid, to fix the problems. Please note all that you find and let the "Editor" know....



...And Now for something completely different...

Albert Einstein dies and goes to heaven.
 At the Pearly Gates, Saint Peter tells him, "You look like Einstein, but you have no idea the lengths some people will go to sneak into Heaven. Can you prove you're Albert Einstein?"
 Einstein ponders for a few seconds and then asks, "Can I have a blackboard and some chalk?"
 Saint Peter snaps his fingers and a blackboard and chalk instantly appear. Einstein proceeds to describe, in arcane mathematics and symbols, his theory of relativity.
 Saint Peter is suitably impressed. "You really ARE Einstein!" he says. "Welcome to heaven!"
 The next to arrive is Picasso. Once again, Saint Peter asks for credentials.
 Picasso asks, "Mind if I use that blackboard and chalk?"
 Saint Peter says, "Go ahead."
 Picasso erases Einstein's equations and sketches a truly stunning mural with just a few strokes of chalk.
 Saint Peter claps. "You are definitely the great artist you claim to be!" he says. "Come on in!"
 Then Saint Peter looks up and sees George W. Bush.
 Saint Peter scratches his head and says, "Einstein and Picasso both managed to prove their identity. How can you prove yours?"
 Dubya looks bewildered and says, "Who are Einstein and Picasso?"
 Saint Peter sighs and says, "Come on in, George."

73... Gary WG7X

Radio Club of Tacoma

4 March, 2009

The 4 March 2009 board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. Vice President Rick Rose KE7EMW called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Vice President: Rick Rose – KE7EMW

Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM

Treasurer: Joe Lester – K7AWJ

Board Member: Al Burleson – K7HW

Board Member: Gary McAdams – WG7X

Board Member: Frank Palmer – AC7JY

Board Member:: Harry Adams – W7HSA

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 9 names on the attendance roster.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Minutes from the 4 February 2006 board meeting were approved as coordinated/corrected by e-mail.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence: Larry reported the usual utility bills and bank statements. In addition our annual Property and Personal Tax bills have come, as well as several pieces of correspondence on our insurance policies. We also received notice from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources of their scheduled inspection of our repeater installation at the Crawford Mountain site. Nick K7MO is arranging to handle that visit.

Nick K7MO asked if we still had the second phone line. We do, and Nick said to cancel it because it's no longer required.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Joe Lester K7AWJ presented the monthly financial report. As our annual membership renewals come in, the checking account balance has increased to \$7,698.83. There was a brief discussion of the security of our Principal Fund's Money Market account. The Board may consider relocating the Money Market account to facilitate future transfers between our checking and investment accounts if the need arises. *A copy of the Monthly financial statement is attached to the original copy of the minutes..*

Logger's Bark April, 2009

ILLNESS AND SILENT KEY: President Jill K7JIL was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to illness. Bud K7BUD's XYL is also under a doctor's care. Steve Klinko WB2LKI, past member's passing was mentioned and Steve may have had some club equipment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Rick KE7EMW reports the continuing receipt of annual membership renewals. As of today our count stands at 236 and should all remaining 98 pending members renew, the count will be 334.

Hamfest: Larry KD4VOM provided a brief status report on this year's Hamfest plans. The Bethel Jr. High site has been reserved, we have ARRL Sanction. Bob K7MXE distributed flyers at a Hamfest in Oregon last month. Bob AD7LJ reported that he handed out last years flyers at all Hamfests in Western Washington, and even to an Oregon Hamfest. Flyers need to be folded in time for this coming Saturday's Mike and Key Hamfest. Bob AD7LJ volunteered to assist Rick KE7EMW tomorrow to get them ready. We are also looking for volunteers to greet the Mike and Key attendees at the gate to hand out flyers. Rick KE7EMW will send an e-mail notice to solicit help. Al K7HW reports that the Hamfest tables have been ordered. Larry KD4VOM handed out a Hamfest task and volunteer listing to solicit help identifying folks to help with this year's Hamfest.

Repeater Report: Nick K7MO provided a summary report on recent repeater work including setting levels, adjusting the frequency and returning the 440 repeater to operation. Nick anticipates getting the IRLP operating again this weekend, but still needs some cabling and connectors before the current 2 meter system can reach its final location downstairs. There was a general discussion of repeater features and possible settings which would permit improved control in case of repeater abuse or misuse.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Furnace: Frank AC7JY reviewed the previous furnace replacement estimates, and tabled an offer for Frank AC7JY and Al K7HW to develop a plan and costs to install a replacement furnace and ducting using club personnel and resources at the meeting.

Lawn Maintenance: This issue was not discussed at the meeting.

Salmon Run Project Selection: The project list provided last month was reviewed, and since the board does not yet have any plans or cost estimates, the board elected to address the Salmon Run Project list in increments by assigning relative priorities to the proposed list. The Board consensus was that the Furnace issue and the Alarm issue are first priorities. Frank AC7JY's proposal above begins to address the furnace issue, and Rick KE7EMW advised the board that he and Rich KR7W had agreed to develop a plan and costs for replacing the alarm system. The remaining items on the list will be addressed as the first priority items are resolved and funded. In the area of Communications Engineering which includes the repeaters, HF Station, towers, feed-lines and related systems Larry KD4VOM was asked to arrange a meeting of interested parties to identify, discuss, and develop recommended priorities and costs for presentation to the Board.

Equipment Loan Policy: Larry KD4VOM indicates competing priorities have temporarily slowed work on development of a club policy.

NEW BUSINESS:

Financial Accounts: Larry KD4VOM proposed two motions to provide documented authority required by Washington Mutual and Principal Funds for changing the signatories to several accounts. Authentication procedures have changed and these motions are required to satisfy the new WAMU requirements.

IRT Account:

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed;
"The Board of Directors of the Radio Club of Tacoma designates the following for access and signature authority for the Radio Club of Tacoma's Internet Account # XXXXXXXXXXXX:

Joseph S. Lester

Patricia Wingerter

Chuck Kemmer

Rich Patrick

Principal Money Market Account

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed;
"The Board of Directors of the Radio Club designates the following for access and signature authority for The Radio Club of Tacoma's Principal Funds Money Market Account # XXXXXXXX:

Richard (Larry) Watson

Joseph S Lester Jr.

W7DK 2 Meter Net Request: Member Davina Nolten KE7JQV has submitted a request for the Franciscan Health System, where she is Disaster Coordination Specialist, and member of the Medical Services Team, to use the W7DK 2 meter 147.28 repeater monthly to test their amateur radio communications. Larry KD4VOM moved that we grant this request. The Board approved the request, and asked Larry KD4VOM to coordinate the Franciscan Health System use of our repeater with Davina to insure a mutual understanding of the agreement and acceptable procedures.

Spring Cleanup: The Board reviewed Al N7OMS' Spring Cleanup project list and agreed with the choice of brown paint for the trim. The first session is planned for this coming Monday, 9 March at 9:30. Repeated here is the cleanup list:

Outside chores:

- Remove pieces of roofing
- Last years cutting to dump
- Clean out planters on front porch
- Scrape the window sills and frames for painting
- Wire brush front hand rail and paint
- Sand back hand rail and paint
- Sand and paint back door and garage door (small)
- Sand front door and see how it looks after. May not be able to varnish but may need to paint.
- Weed eat the black berry bushes
- Clean and haul away stuff from around garage
- Bust up concrete attached to fence posts
- Wash outside of windows.
- Paint front of front steps white. (Safety)

Radio Club of Tacoma

Inside chores:

Wash insides of windows
Mop floors and wipe down class room tables
Vacuum carpets
Remove old monitors and VCRs
Remove trash and other items of no use to club

Kirkreit Picnic: Larry KD4VOM presented a review of last year's picnic budget and expense, and proposed a budget for this year's picnic of \$ 250.00 which should be offset in part by donations at the picnic. The Picnic is planned for 12 June at Spanaway Park, Shelter D, assuming that date can be reserved. Pierce County Parks have raised the fee for shelters, from \$75.00 to \$ 100.00 if reserved prior to 1 April. The Board approved a budget for the picnic of \$ 250.00.

RCT Historical Archive Documents: Larry KD4VOM reported on recent efforts by Doug AD7AV and Larry to determine how to preserve and protect our clubs historical archives and documents. A recent visit with Ed Nolan of the Washington State Historical Museum Research Center reveals what we had suspected; the environment in the clubhouse is very hostile to our old documents. We learned what we can do to minimize the damage, but in the end more will be needed. Some steps have been taken to protect our historical documents and plans are underway to identify, document, create a database and scan/digitize our documents. Larry also suggested it may be a good time to consider a Club Historian to manage the process and care for our historical archives. Another task might be the creation of an annual narrative and eventually a writing of the history of the club

ANNOUNCEMENTS: - None

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

HF Operations: Gary WG7X has the HF station Ten Tec packaged and is ready to send it to the factory for inspection and repair.

Open House: The following volunteered to serve as Open House Duty Officers;

14 March Harry – W7HSA

21 March Bob -- AD7LJ

28 March.-- Al K7HW/Larry KD4VOM

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm

Logger's Bark April, 2009

The 11 March 2009 Membership MINUTES

The 11 March 2009 Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Jill Palmer K7JIL called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President: Jill Palmer – K7JIL

Vice President: Rick Rose – KE7EMW

Board Member: Frank Palmer – AC7JY

Board Member: Al Burleson – K7HW

Board Member: Harry Adams – W7HSA

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 45 names on the attendance roster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by President Jill K7JIL

INTRODUCTIONS:

Self introductions were completed and guests Charles, Stephanie, and new member Todd WB7NIL welcomed.

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY: None appearing

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Recent Correspondence was reported by Rick KE7EMW. A copy of the correspondence log is attached to the original copy of the minutes.

Correspondence & Calendar: *A copy of the current calendar is attached to the original copy of the minutes*

TREASURER'S REPORT: Joe Lester K7AWJ:
Absent

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Rick Rose KE7EMW reports the current membership count stands at 244 and should all members renew we should reach 337.

Repeater: Nick Winter K7MO requests users do not "ask permission to use the IRLP," but rather "Call; Accessing IRLP" and to be aware of and courteously avoid normal drive time/commute hours if at all possible.

Radio Club of Tacoma

VE Report: John AC7WW reported that twenty five candidates were present at the clubhouse on Tuesday evening March 10th. Candidates outnumbered Volunteer Examiners as only twelve were there to conduct the session. Forty-six elements were graded with twenty-six being passed. Seventeen new Technicians joined the Amateur Service, two candidates passed element two (the Technician test) and then went on to pass element three to become General. One candidate was a Novice and he passed both elements two and three to become a General. Two candidates did not obtain an initial license at this session.

The next scheduled testing session is Tuesday April 14th, 2009.

Thanks to the following volunteer examiners for their time:

Harry, W7HSA	Joe, W7RQ
Steve, AD7VL	Jon, AD7AW
Rich, KK7VH	Bill, AB7WJ
Jim, N7RHX	Stephen, AD7AB
Rich, KR7W	Mike, AD7TH
Roland, WQ7P	

John also noted that the VE team has served 99 candidates since the beginning of the year and was pleased to report that Beryl (Rusty) Hood (KE7UCM) was a candidate at the last testing session. His parents were active in the club many years ago. Beryl, as a teenager, drew the picture of the Mountain with the log and axe that was used on the old Logger's Bark Newsletter.

Logger's Bark April, 2009

PROGRAM: Raoul Island Kermadec 2006 DXpedition - **Angry Giant of the Pacific**

Ken Gibson N7ELF presented an interesting video of the Raul Island Kermadec 2006 DXpedition. Separated from New Zealand by over 1000 km, and located at the junction of two opposing continental plates, the Kermadec chain of islands is one of the most seismically active regions of the world. Raoul Island, located at its northern end, is home to a large volcano which violently erupted without warning on March 17, 2006.

Six months later, under the close supervision of the New Zealand Department of Conservation, the Microlite Penguins DXpedition team was offered a rare opportunity to explore Raoul Island, and activate yet another of the DX world's most wanted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

RCT Spring Cleanup: Al N7OMS kicked off this year's Spring Cleanup on Monday, March 9th to begin the process of bringing our Clubhouse up to par. There is a lot to do. If you can help, call Al...

Marian Gurley's Birthday Celebration: The Club is Celebrating Marion's longstanding contribution to our club over many years by celebrating what would have been her 89th Birthday. at the Clubhouse 14 March @ 5:30 pm

The Club's first "**Radio Active Outing**" is planned for April 10, 11, and 12 at the American Sunset RV Park at Westport. Razor Clamming season is open. Make reservations direct and indicate you are with the Radio Club of Tacoma for a discount price. Contact Steve Blacksten AD7VL for more information.

2 Meter Net: Bud K7BUD continues to search for an additional Tuesday evening 2 Meter Net controller.

Door Prize: Two \$ 40.00 TV analog to digital converter box coupons were donated by Hal Stalhut W7EC - One was won by Ian Haverluk KE7TEV, and the second was won by Harry W7HSA who donated his coupon to the clubhouse.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm

Radio Club of Tacoma

25 March 2009 MINUTES

The 25 March 2009 Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Jill Palmer K7JIL called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President: Jill Palmer – K7JIL
Vice President: Rick Rose – KE7EMW
Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM
Treasurer: Joe Lester K7AWJ
Board Member: Frank Palmer – AC7JY
Board Member: Al Burleson – K7HW
Board Member: Harry Adams – W7HSA

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 72 names on the attendance roster

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by President Jill K7JIL

INTRODUCTIONS:

Self introductions were completed and guests Tim Schumacher KD7PUD; Gregg Glidden KF7BAO; Victor Allison KF7BAV and John Williams KE7ZGQ were welcomed.

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY: Rick Rose KE7EMW sadly reported the recent passing of Member King Davis KE7ASO on 21 March 2009 as the result of an accident. King held a General Class license and was a frequent visitor to our Saturday Open Houses and was regarded for his humor as well as his amateur radio knowledge. King was 68, and members were cordially invited by Carol to a memorial service at the Tacoma Sportsman's Club on Canyon Road Sunday, March 29th at 11:00 am

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence & Calendar: Correspondence log was available.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Joe Lester K7AWJ

Financial information was made available.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Rick Rose KE7EMW reports 272 paid memberships and many still arriving. If all renew, our membership should reach 338. Dues are delinquent at the end of March, and although accepted after that, late renewals cannot be included in the annual Club membership

Logger's Bark April, 2009

booklet.

Committee/Call:

FYBO: Rich KR7W reports that W7DK came out on top at this year's Freeze Your Buns Off contest, and that an appropriate plaque will be presented to the Club at the next meeting.

PROGRAM: Ken Gibson N7ELF presented to-night's outstanding program;

INTERNET RADIO LINKING PROJECT (IRLP)

Recently we had a great program on another Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) system Echolink. Tonight, Ken provided background and a detailed insight into a sister digital program gaining popularity with amateur radio operators: IRLP. From hardware to software, component connections and analog to digital conversions using your computer's sound card, Ken pretty much covered the IRLP waterfront, including a recording of a contact made earlier this day, and a link to a Google Maps Overlay which can provide a live graphic representation of current IRLP activity worldwide. Here's the link: <http://www.irlp.net/> The success of the program was reflected in the large attendance and extensive Q and A session that followed the interactive presentation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Meetings and Open House: Jill K7JIL Reminded all present of the upcoming Board and Membership meetings as well as the Saturday Open House on 28 March which will include the Mini-Swap Meet as well as Hot Dogs and Chili.

W7DK Nets: Jill K7JIL also reminded those present of the regular Tuesday evening 2 Meter Net at 7:30 pm on the W7DK 147.28 repeater and the Sunday 10 Meter net at 28375 MHz at 8 pm.

CW Net: Worth W7WG reminded all of Pete KK7QW's CW net on Monday evenings on 28150 MHz. Lynn K7OKS reports a "Totem" DX award is in the works for presentation soon.

TUNING AND TRAFFIC:

Space Station Contact: Rick KE7EMW reported a successful Space Station Repeater contact with Redmond Washington.

There was also a report of a 20 meter contact with Spain around 4 pm.

Radio Club of Tacoma

DOOR PRIZE: A Grab Bag of goodies donated by Leonard KA7NWF was won by Charles KD7UAN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

VE REPORT John AC7WW

Twenty five candidates were present at the clubhouse on Tuesday evening March 10th. Candidates outnumbered Volunteer Examiners as only twelve were there to conduct the session. Forty-six elements were graded with twenty-six being passed. Seventeen new Technicians joined the Amateur Service, two candidates passed element two (the Technician test) and then went on to pass element three to become General. One candidate was a Novice and he passed both elements two and three to become a General. Two candidates did not obtain an initial license at this session.

The next scheduled testing session is Tuesday April 14th, 2009.

Thanks to the following volunteer examiners for their time:

Harry, W7HSA	Joe, W7RQ
Steve, AD7VL	Jon, AD7AW
Rich, KK7VH	Bill, AB7WJ
Jim, N7RHX	Stephen, AD7AB
Rich, KR7W	Mike, AD7TH
Roland, WQ7P	

SAMS PhotoFact books!

I have a whole box full of Sam's PhotoFact folders dating from approximately the late 40's up through the 60's. These cover table model and console radios, record players, and television sets. They would be especially appealing to someone who restores old radios. They are FREE to anybody in the club - or *Anybody* - who would like them.

I can be reached at (253) 631-3430 [home], (206) 941-2624 [cell], or email at W7FJB@juno.com
de Frank - W7FJB

Logger's Bark April, 2009

Communications Academy

Communications Academy is coming up soon in April. It is being held April 4 and April 5 at the South Seattle Community College.

The theme is "Amateur Radio: Your Resource in Disaster and Emergency Communication"

There is a terrific schedule of presentations this year. Check it out =>

www.commacademy.org

Early Bird registration rates are available through March 22, 2009 so get signed up now if you plan on attending.

Groups of 5 or more attendees registering at the same time receive a 10% discount so why not pick a leader and get a group together? We could have lunch together at a table, etc. Sounds like a good ARES activity.

Richard KR7L

NOW!



THE SUPER BAND SPREAD RGH

Uses 1/2a7, 1/57, 1/58, 1/2a5, 1/80.
A powerful adjustable *band spread* superheterodyne kit on the famous gothic chassis. Tremendous power on all signals. Covers entire band from 11 meters up.

COMPLETE PARTS \$14.95
Including 8 S.W. Coils.
Dynamic Speaker \$2.50 extra.

MAIL ORDERS FILLED

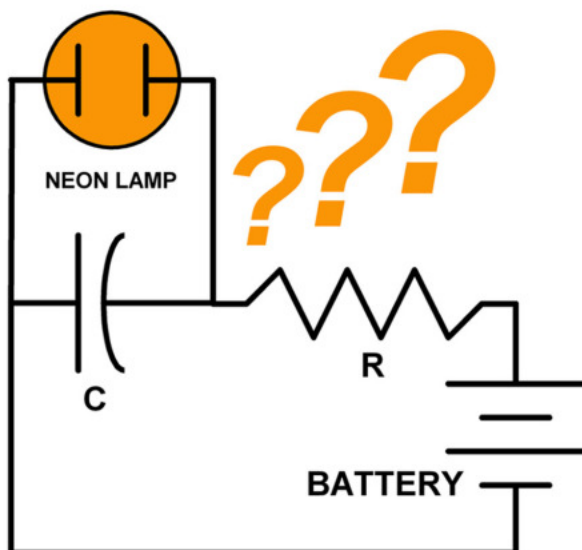
THOR RADIO
CORP.

167 Greenwich St., New York City
SEND FOR FREE DATA



It's the... Museum Puzzler

Hey Club Members... be the first one to correctly identify the schematic circuit shown below...



and win a really cool prize.
Prize winner and answer
to be revealed at the May 13th club meeting.

email your answer to: webgeek@w7dk.org
Don't forget... ya gotta be a club member
to play the game.

Acme Research Labs
offers you! **ARL**
Custom Ham Equipment
and Station Furniture
PSK-31 and Contesting PC to
Rig Interfaces, Audio Gadgets,
Field Strength Meters, Books and
'How To' publications, and more...
For the latest in equipment,
CONTACT US FIRST!!!
YOUR FRIENDLY SUPPLIER

Acme Research Labs
811 S. Ainsworth St
Chicago, ILL call ZE5-1212



GENERAL LICENSE CLASS NEWS... serious business here, folks. by Rich KR7W...



Recently the class spent an evening going over the chapter on ANTENNAS. Part of this lesson was the Hands On part... generously donated by Club Member Bill, AD7QI.

Bill invited the class to his QTH. We viewed how his shack is set up and what works well for him. Then we left the warm environment into the rainiest day of the year to get to Bill's back yard which has many tall trees with many wire antennas. Bill showed us his 75 Meter Cage, 160 Meter Loop, and many other wires in the sky. We then commenced to build our own dipole in the "test area" by using the formulas in the General Class study guide. After calculating ($599 / \text{Freq??}$) cutting, hoisting, testing, re cutting, and more hoisting... we had a good functioning dipole. I tested on 14.300 MHz by asking, "Is the frequency in use?" a few times. A terse reply stated, "YES, it's the (I cant remember exactly) NET". I apologized and signed off. Yes, the antenna gets out.

Many thanks to Bill AD7QI for his generosity and hospitality... and the coffee was pretty good.

Radio Club of Tacoma **Logger's Bark** **April, 2009**
SPENDING THE DAY AT WILD BILL'S (AD7QI)



Happy Birthday

April

Day	Name	Call	RCT Number
3	Clay Freinwald	K7CR	711
3	Jeff Hanson	W7JFF	770
4	Steve Anthony	KE7TEX	2367
6	Harry Hudson	K7LAZ	2160
7	Alan Ferguson	N7OMS	2107
7	Bill Lucas	KB7IHB	2114
7	Don Tjossem	W7DRT	2346
7	Mike Scott	KB7UXU	1602
9	Chris Kennedy	KB7NMU	2362
9	Harry Wong	N7DOE	1109
10	Jessica Carter	KD7LZW	2100
11	Bob Teitzel	WA7ZZA	771
13	Lee Meyers	W6PZF	263
14	Mady Burgstahler	N7SEW	2373
15	Joe Winter	WZ7M	643
16	Jerry Hathaway	K7ETU	750
19	Jan Gilbertson	K7HTU	434
19	John Makebakken	N7FOW	1108
19	Matt Shaw	KE7KJW	2326
19	Robert Churchward	W7RXS	322
20	Daucie Willson	KE7ZYH	2403
20	Mick Pier	KK7QS	1950
23	Chandler Ellis	KC7EYZ	1791
24	Randy Gray	KE7QWU	2355
25	Bob Gates	K7IND	568
26	Vern Hase	KD7GTZ	2051
27	Robert Edwards	N7HXX	1207
28	Diane Sim	W7SIM	2304
28	Mary Ann Iseri	KD7HYX	2063

A note From AI N7OMS

My best friend Sue took Steve Morton's technician class in March and talking to her about the class gave me a whole new set of insights. My Dad K7UNL took me to the Boeing Bears Novice class in the mid sixties and I got my first license. Years later I took RCT's General class at the Orting Library then several years ago finished up in Jerry's Extra class. Having had a father who was a ham was a great help. He even built my first transmitter.

Talking to Sue about the make up of her class was the first lesson. They have people that were there for their jobs, some who have an interest in emergency communications, one young man who was doing this as part of a senior project and finally those that have wanted to get a ham license for some time. This is a very real service that we provide for the local community and the class teachers deserve our thanks. But is it enough?

The local clubs have been the key to getting my license and later upgrades. My father helped with getting on the air. Some of the people in Sue's class don't have someone handy like my dad to help. It's one thing to get the license but yet a vast gulf lies between that and getting a station on the air. Is there more that the Radio Club of Tacoma can do? Yes, we need to be there for those who just get that brand new Call.

How about once each person gets their license someone from the club calls them to offer congratulations and to ask if there is something they can help with. Also, once each quarter we have an antenna building party where they can build a simple dipole from materials the club will have on hand. Members can answer questions and we can coach them thru a QSO or two on the club's rigs. We could have a few handouts on subjects like getting your feed line to the rig, RF safety, methods for getting that dipole into the air, what a first rig should do and lots of others come to mind.

Another area that could attract local interest is the area of emergency communications. I have very little knowledge about this aspect of Ham Radio but I bet that others in the club do. We need those people to step forward and help the Radio Club become a better resource for this important part of Ham Radio.

I hope by this article to generate some interest in helping these new hams. Hey we may even get some new members for the Club. Feel free to contact me AI N7OMS or any club officer or board member and we will form up some plans to present to the Board. There is nothing as sad as a New Call that is never heard on the air.

Dateline: March 2009

Sparky's "View from the Shack"

This and that around the club, and more...

Sparky's welcomes comments, ideas and letters to "The RCT View", but reserves the right to procrastinate, and generally ignore social engineering or cranky inputs. Editorial philosophy — While there occasionally may be reason and rhyme as we go along, the goal is to ramble through the many and varied activities of the Club and its members as we take another trip around the sun.

Our Legacy

This month, Sparky continues our trip down memory lane, with the help of some of the many Radio Club of Tacoma historical photos and documents. . At right is an unusual photo which was taken in September 1927 at the ARRL Convention in Spokane held at the Dessert Hotel.



Last month we posted this photo of Doc Spike at his shack, on the back of the original photo was this notation...



"Doc. Spike—WCOL—(Dr. F.C.J. Spike)

Sky Champion—Comet—Pro.

*Antn—Meissner Signal Shifter, PP
T20's—100 Watts*

All Bands

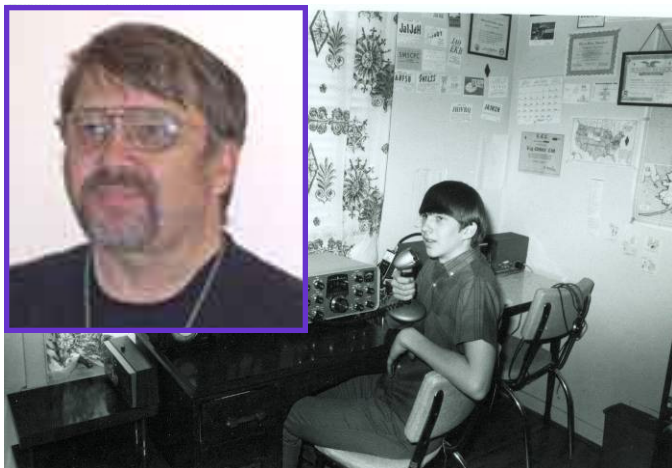
Antn is in rack to left of photo, not shown "

Here's this month's Puzzler. Believe it or not, The Radio Club of Tacoma once had its own band, shown here in their glory are the

"Zero Beats" Perhaps some old timer will remember them and let us know who was in the photo.

We have a huge stash of memorable and some not-so-memorable photos from our archive collection. To be continued...





From our Readers...

Last month we asked if anyone could identify the photo at the far left in March's archive photo, here's some responses...

Would the pix be of Nick K7MO??

Roger T WA7ANJ

Your current member picture is of Gary Kohtala. Gary was about 15 when that picture was made and was living in government quarters on Ft. Lewis. The Heathkit transceiver in the picture was bought by his father and I assembled it.

Gary took a licensing class from W7BUN and rode with Jean - W7OOI. Each week brought a new antenna idea that he was going to try that he explained to her on the way to class.

Gary was a great kid and is a great ham today.
Marv Wheeler - KG7V

Spring Cleanup Time...



Sponsored by the irrepressible Al N7OMS, the March 9th Club Spring Cleanup got underway with a crew which included Al N7OMS, Chuck AC7QN, Pat WT7N; Bob AD7LJ; Larry KD4VOM; and XYL Janice. Windows were washed inside and out, rugs vacuumed, and a major reorganization of the kitchen cabinet contents which now sport labels of what goes where. The weather essentially precluded any serious outside work, and a great deal remains to be done in the inside too. As most of us are painfully aware, Spring hasn't yet sprung in the Pacific Northwest. Perhaps April will be kinder to us as we tackle the remaining work. Here's some snaps of the first installment thanks to Bob AD7LJ:

Painting and outside work remain on the list for work.

Marian Gurley, A Celebration

While Sparky didn't make the big affair, thanks to Worth W7WG and Bob AD7LJ we have lots of photos to tell the story of a real lady and her contributions to the Radio Club of Tacoma over these many years....



Attaboys:

Sparky sends a well earned tip of the hat to Rich KR7W for stepping up to the critical need for a General Licensing Class. Rich's class continues to wow the students, with a PSK 31 demo and a visit to AD7QI's QTH to get a feel for his shack and antenna farm, even though the weather didn't cooperate well. Of course Sparky notes the Spring Cleanup Team and trusts that more will jump I and help return our Clubhouse to spic and span condition. We'd be remiss if we didn't also send another tip of Sparky's hat to Ken for the super fine IRLP presentation at the March 25th meeting. It was a great presentation attended by what may be a recent record of over 70 folks. Well done...

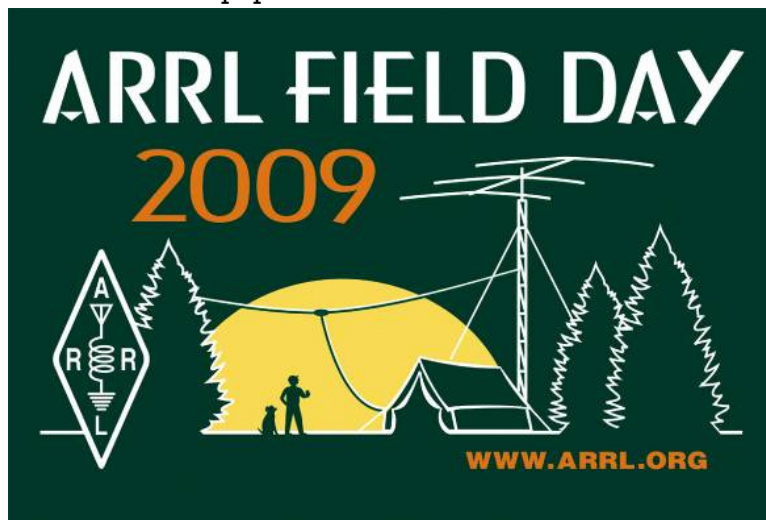
Tubes, tubes, we've got tubes!!! Al N7OMS and the tube team also deserves our corporate thanks for the good work they are doing sorting and documenting our large tube collection. While Sparky may have missed some, here is at least a partial list of the "Tube Team"; Al N7OMS; Chuck AC7QN; Rich KR7W; Pat WT7N; Pete KK7QW; Dale AD7SQ; Steve AD7VL and Bruce AD7WV.

View from the Shack...

2009 is well underway, and even though we've suffered the slings and arrows of an unusually cold and stormy winter and spring, hope springs eternal for warmer days and better propagation

. Planning is well underway for the many club activities we have come to enjoy and expect. The annual Kirkreit Picnic site has been secured for 13 June at the Spanaway Park shelter D and ; 2009 Hamfest planning is taking shape for the August 8th event; and early rumblings of this years Field Day have been heard and the ARRL has already generated this year's Logo...

A new addition to this year's RCT calendar is the "Radio Active Outing", a field trip to Westport's American Lake RV park for the April 10, 11 and 12th to just have fun and have several operating sessions as well as visit the popular Pacific Ocean site... - See Steve AD7VL for more information



The Disclaimer...

These articles are intended to browse through recent activities and coming events of possible interest to the Radio Club of Tacoma members. It will of course by design and intent be informal and attempt to record some of the Club's activities that might otherwise go unnoticed.

Sparky

"A penny saved is a Government oversight"

Al, N7OMS brings you.....



ANNOUNCING... Radio Club of Tacoma's

**Second Annual International
Hidden Transmitter Hunt**

Also Known as 'Bunny' Hunt

**Saturday May 9, 2009
Noon to 4 PM**

**Where? Site to be Announced
as soon as it is determined**

**More info to be provided at club website
Also, listen for announcements at
club meetings and the Tuesday Night Net**

email: webgeek@w7dk.org for more info



First Annual RCT Radio-Active Weekend

(At the American Sunset RV & Tent Resort – Westport, Washington)

www.americansunsetrv.com

April 10, 11, and 12th 2009

(800) 569-2267

Make your Reservations now!

We have 16 spaces blocked out for our group that are close to the club house
(which has a full kitchen, TV area, and Library.)

RV Sites are \$26.71 (or \$53.42 for two nights) tax included.

Be sure to mention the Radio Club of Tacoma to get the discounted rate.

For those of you who don't have an RV, there are several motels in the area...

The Breakers Boutique (\$62.10 for one bed) – (360) 268-0848

Windjammer (\$45/person) – (360) 268-9351

Questions? Call Steve – AD7VL at (253) 847-9884

What to bring...

- Yourself, family, children, pets
- Food for your group PLUS something for the Saturday night Potluck
- Radio transceiver for the Saturday night 1-hour QSO Sprint
- Radio receivers for your family to log QSL Stations
- FRS Radios
- Bunny Hunting equipment (the RDF kind) for Saturday activity
- Hand-held GPS for Geocaching
- Fruit (fresh or canned) to share for Sunday morning breakfast
- Firewood
- S'mores ingredients

Activities

Friday:

- Arrival (anytime after 1:00pm) – Setup Camp and RELAX
- Geocaching Tutorial (short movie)
- Bunny Hunting Tutorial
- Coffee

Saturday:

- Bunny Hunting
- Geocaching
- QSL Listening/Logging 12:00 noon – 8:00pm
- Potluck at 5:30pm
- 1-Hour QSO Sprint (any station, anywhere) 7:00-8:00pm

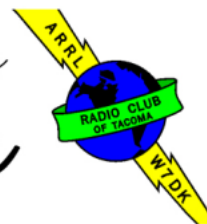
Sunday:

- Club Breakfast at 8:00am (RCT provides pancakes and coffee)
- Bragging Rights Announced
 - QSO Sprint
 - QSL Logs
 - Bunny Hunt
 - Geocaching

Lucky Campsite Drawing – Steve Blackston – AD7VL is donating a
SIRUS Radio (subscription required, value \$150.00)



The Radio Club of Tacoma's
Logger's Bark



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 Treasurer: Joe Lester K7AWJ k7awj@arrrl.net

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ADVERTISE in the BARK: \$60.00 full page, \$30.00 half page, \$15.00 quarter page, \$5.00 business card size. These charges offset the publishing and USPS mailing costs.

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Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is \$30 per calendar year. \$25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay \$15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are \$15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5 Central Tacoma Packet: 144.970

Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

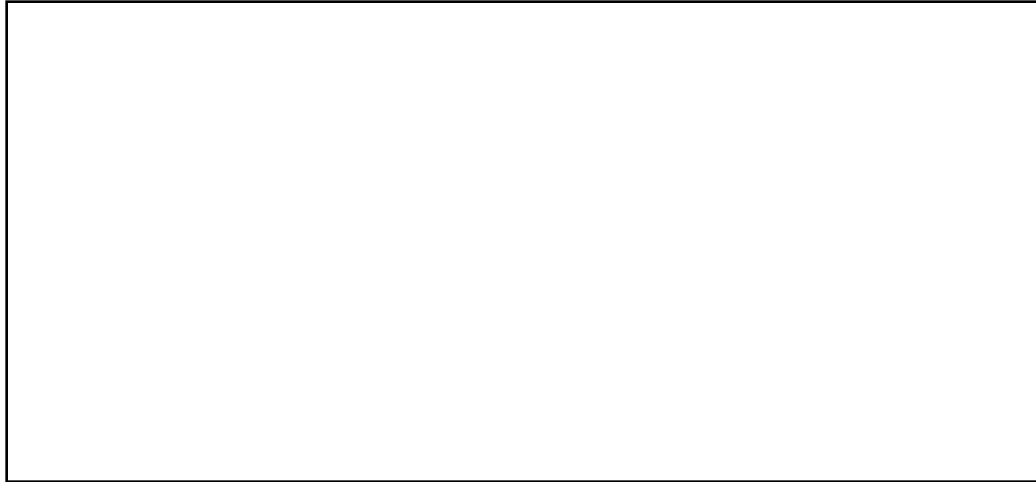
The Loggers Bark

Radio Club of Tacoma, INC.

PO Box 11188

Tacoma, WA 98411

To RCT Member:



APRIL 2009 EVENTS

CLUB MEETINGS: Wednesdays April 8th and 22nd at the Library Administration Building 112th and Waller Road. The club meets at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting: Wednesday April 1st, 7:00 PM at the RCT clubhouse. All members are/were welcome.

Bark Deadline: Last week-end of each month. Please submit articles by that time!

Support our club: Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer!

Check into the weekly two meter net: Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on the club repeater on 147.280 MHz.

Check into the weekly 10 meter net: Sundays at 8:00 PM on 28.375 MHz.